

My name is Lauren Wills, and I live in Mystic, Connecticut. Below are my comments on proposed H.B. No. 6349.

I am an avid Uber user, and I have used the app to get a safe, reliable ride in Connecticut and many other states.

In the past, I had used Uber when traveling in cities and on business trips outside Connecticut. I loved it and always wanted it to be available here, in our state. I am incredibly thankful Uber has been operating here since last April, especially because of the impact Uber has on drunk driving in our communities.

Mystic, where I grew up, is a town known for their high DUI rates. As you got older, it became a reality that you knew more people who had gotten DUIs than those that hadn't. The only mode of transportation - other than getting behind the wheel yourself - were small cab companies that had unpredictable arrival times, if they could get to you at all.

When I heard that Uber had launched in Connecticut, I continually opened the app waiting to see if there was a driver in my area, and one day, there was! Shortly after, I used it to get friends home that had been drinking but needed to get home to their dog or other matters. Had Uber not been available, they likely would have driven home themselves, adding to the DUI problems in our communities.

I am hopeful that Uber continues to grow within Connecticut. Not only will it provide safe and convenient transportation that Connecticut lacks, it will save lives.

I appreciate the Transportation Committee's consideration in finding a permanent home for Uber in Connecticut. It is very much needed.